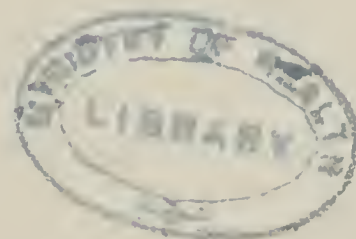


LIBRARY

HEALTH
F-2 JUL 47

ANNUAL REPORT FOR
1945.



TO
THE PERSHORE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

BY
J. J. MURRAY, M.B., D.P.H.
(District Medical Officer of Health).



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29987040>

VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>BIRTHS.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	126	124	250.
Illegitimate.	14	20	34.
	140	144	284.

<u>STILL BIRTHS.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	3	4	7.
Illegitimate.	1	1	2.
	4	5	9.

1944.

Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population - 20.7. 20.7.
Still-Birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 30.7. .16.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>DEATHS.</u>	96	74	170.
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population - 12.0.			13.1.
Deaths from Puerperal causes:-			

	<u>Rates per 1,000 total (live and still) Births.</u>	
Puerperal sepsis.	Nil.	Nil.
Other Puerperal causes.	Nil.	Nil.
Total.	Nil.	Nil.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Deaths of Infants under one year.	8	3	11.
Deaths of legitimate infants.	6	3	9.
Deaths of illegitimate infants.	2	0	2.

DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR.

All infants per 1,000 live births.	39.	23.
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	36.	19.
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	60.	64.

Deaths from Cancer. (all ages).	29.	21.
Deaths from Measles. (all ages).	Nil.	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough. (all ages).	Nil.	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea. (under 2 years of age).	3.	Nil.

Comparison with some of the figures for the whole country is as follows:-

	<u>England & Wales.</u>	<u>District.</u>	<u>District.</u>
	<u>1945.</u>	<u>1945.</u>	<u>1944.</u>
Birth Rate.	16.1.	20.0.	20.7.
Death Rate.	11.4.	12.0.	13.1.
Infant Mortality Rate.	46.	39.	23.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.

The following table gives the causes of death during 1945.

<u>CAUSE OF DEATH.</u>	<u>MALES.</u>	<u>FEMALES.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
Measles.	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	-	-	-
Acute Infectious Encephalitis.	-	-	-
Typhoid and Para-typhoid fevers.	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	-	-	-
Acute Poli-myelitis & Polio-encephalitis.	-	-	-
Influenza.	-	1	1
Syphilitic Disease.	1	-	1
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System.	2	2	4
Other forms of Tuberculosis.	-	2	2
Cancer. (total).	14	15	29.
(Cancer of Buccal cavity - oesophagus M.	2	-	2
(uterus F.	-	4	4
{ Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum.	1	3	4
{ Cancer of Breast.	-	2	2
{ Cancer of all other sites.	11	6	17
Diabetes.	2	-	2
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions.	10	14	24
Heart Disease.	23	18	41
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System.	2	2	4
Bronchitis.	3	1	4
Pneumonia.	4	2	6
Other Respiratory Diseases..	1	2	3
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum.	-	-	-
Diarrhoea. (under 2 years).	2	1	3
Appendicitis.	-	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases.	2	1	3
Nephritis.	3	5	8
Puer. & Post. Abort. Sepsis.	-	-	-
Other Maternal Causes.	-	-	-
Premature Birth.	2	1	3
Con. Mal. Birth Inj. Inf. Dis.	4	-	4
Suicide.	1	-	1
Road Traffic Accidents.	1	-	1
Other violent causes.	2	-	2
All other causes.	17	6	23
TOTALS.	96	74	170.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

General pooling of Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases in the County of Worcester is continued. Cases other than Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria are removed to hospitals outside the area of the local Joint Hospital Board owing to lack of cubicle blocks and nursing staff. In practice, this arrangement has worked satisfactorily.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supplies.

A total of 1,819 houses (40% of the population) is supplied with piped water, the main source of which comes from springs on the Bredon Hills. A supply to the village of Wyre is derived from the gravel beds of the River Avon, serving 75 houses and about 350 persons. This is included in the first mentioned total. The Bredon supply is chlorinated. By arrangement with the Cheltenham Corporation an additional amount is furnished, the average daily supplement amounting to about 80,000 gallons. This has been of much assistance as the prolonged drought imposed a severe strain. Three hundred persons in approximately 95 houses are served by standpipes. This represents about 3% of the district population. There is no question of any plumbo-solvent tendency, and the samples taken monthly have been satisfactory from both the chemical and bacteriological stand points.

About 2,330 dwellings, housing 60% of the population, are solely dependent upon wells, many of which are unfit for drinking purposes. It is hoped in the near future to supply the great majority with piped water derived from the Coventry Corporation's projected supply from the River Severn.

Sewage Disposal.

A Consultant's report is being awaited. It is understood that a start will be made with the Town of Pershore (in part) and the adjoining parishes.

Housing.

The Council intend to proceed with the erection of Swedish timber houses in the parish of Pinvin.

Their programme for the first two years is to erect if possible firstly 112 and then 90 houses. Several sites have been approved.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Duties of the Food and Drugs Act, 1928-38 are carried out by the Inspector of Weights and Measures. Sanitary Inspectors can also take samples under the Act.

All dairies are subject to supervision by the Sanitary Inspector, by whom they are visited periodically.

Slaughter houses have not been used since 1939, but in the future consideration will doubtless be given to the making of more satisfactory arrangements than those which prevailed prior to the war.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notified Diseases (other than tuberculosis) during the year 1945.

<u>DISEASES.</u>	<u>TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.</u>	<u>ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL.</u>	<u>TOTAL DEATHS.</u>
Scarlet Fever.	13	2	-
Diphtheria.	5	5	-
Para-typhoid fever.	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	2	-	-
Pneumonia.	2	1	-
Dysentery.	7	4	-
Measles.	576	-	-
Whooping Cough.	21	-	-
Erysipelas.	5	1	-
Smallpox.	-	-	-
Typhoid.	1	1	-
Cerebro-spinal fever.	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	1	-	-

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES CASES
(OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE YEAR 1945)

AGE GROUPS.	Typhoid fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Para-typhoid fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Pneumonia.	Dysentery.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Cerebro-spinal fever.	Erysipelas.
Under 1 year.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	21	2	1	1
1 - 2 years.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	30	6	1	1
3 - 4 years.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	92	5	1	1
5 - 10 years.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	294	8	1	1
11 - 15 years.	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	49	1	1	1
16 - 20 years.	1	1	9	1	1	1	1	1	19	1	1	3
21 - 35 years.	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	3	16	1	1	1
36 - 45 years.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1
46 - 65 years.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
66 and over.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
TOTALS.	1	1	13	5	1	2	2	7	576	21	-	5.

SCARLET FEVER.

Eight of the thirteen notified cases occurred in members of the Forces. Two of the remaining five civilian cases were removed to hospital.

WHOOPING COUGH AND MEASLES.

A epidemic of measles occurred during the early months of the year, 326 cases being notified. There were no deaths from this disease or from Whooping Cough.

DIPHTHERIA.

Five cases were notified, one being in the Forces; of the four civilian cases, one had been previously immunised. There were no deaths.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The table below shows the figures of children protected during the year and also the total figures from the inception of this measure.

	<u>Nos. Imm.</u> <u>0 - 4.</u> <u>inclusive.</u>	<u>Nos. Imm.</u> <u>5 - 14.</u> <u>inclusive.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>1945.</u>	116.	35.	151.
<u>1940 - 45.</u> <u>inclusive.</u>	1,096.	2,018.	3,114.
<u>Total %</u> <u>immunised.</u>	75%	82%	78%

These estimates are based on official child population figures, and do not include the numbers of children immunised privately as these are difficult to assess, but if a conservative figure is allowed for this, it would mean that approximately 80 - 85% of the total children in this area have been protected - a very gratifying result. Credit is due to the principals of Schools and to the local District Nurses for their interest and help.

SCHOOLS.

It was not necessary to close any Schools during the year for infectious diseases.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table gives below particulars of the notifications (16) and of all deaths from the disease in this area during 1945.

<u>Age Periods.</u>	<u>NEW CASES.</u>				<u>DEATHS.</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Under 1 year.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years.	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-
15 - 24 years.	3	3	-	-	-	1	-	-
25 - 34 years.	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-
35 - 44 years.	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
45 - 54 years.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over.	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTALS.	9	4	3	0	2	2	2	0

1944.

Number of Deaths from non-notified tuberculosis.	nil.	nil.
Total number of tuberculosis deaths.	6.	11.